

Egret (*A. rufa*). I have not met with it at all north of the mouth of the Anclote River, at which point it is rare. In all the rookeries about Tampa, Old Tampa, and Hillsboro' Bays, it is more or less common, but its representatives are almost entirely in the colored phase, and only now and then, at rare intervals, is a white bird (*A. pealei*) met with.

(To be continued.)

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## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES ON THE GENUS ACANTHIS.

BY LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

THE well-known Austrian ornithologist, Victor, Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen, has most courteously sent me four specimens of *Acanthis cabaret* from Austria, thus enabling me to supplement my former paper (Auk, 1887, p. 31) on the subject with a few notes.

I stated that from the examination of an Italian specimen I was "strongly inclined to think that it will be necessary ultimately to recognize *A. rufescens* (Vieill.) as different from *A. cabaret*." The Italian specimen, as compared with British birds, differed chiefly (1) in being of a brighter and more ochraceous brown; (2) in having whitish (not pale umber brown) outer margins to the tail-feathers; (3) in having the flanks more heavily streaked; (4) in having dusky streaks across the fore neck, and (5) in having a decidedly smaller bill.

The four Austrian birds show conclusively that the above characters will not hold as distinguishing continental specimens from British ones. They are practically identical with typical British *A. cabaret*, and can be matched completely, and I have British specimens of *A. cabaret* before me which are considerably brighter in general coloration, and have the flanks more heavily streaked than the Austrian examples, none of which exhibit any dusky streaks across the fore neck. Of the latter two have whitish outer margins to the tail-feathers, while in the other two they are brownish, and as to the size of the bill, the table below de-

monstrates that the Austrian specimens have the bills larger, if anything, than the average British bird. (Compare tables in Auk, 1887, pp. 34, 35.) This table also shows how closely Austrian and British examples agree in general size.

It is hardly probable that the form inhabiting the mountains of Italy should be different from that breeding in the Austrian Alps, and I therefore now regard *A. rufescens* as a true synonym of *A. cabaret*.

## MEASUREMENTS.

Sex and Age.	LOCALITY.	DATE.	Wing.	Tail-f.	Bill from Nostrils.	Furcation of Tail.
♂ ad.* ♂ † ♂ † ♂ † ♂ †	Hallein, Salzburg, Austria . . . . .	Nov. 15, 1883.	71	53	7.5	10
	“ “ “ . . . . .	Oct. 21, 1883.	70	52	7.2	10
	Mariahoff, Steiermark, Austria . . . . .	Feb. 24, 1881.	71	54	7.5	12
	Hallein, Salzburg. . . . .	Oct. 21, 1883.	67	49	7.0	11
	Average measurements of three males . . . . .	. . . . .	71	53	7.4	11

\* Throat and breast red.

† Without red.

## THREE NEW FORMS OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

MR. J. M. SOUTHWICK, of Providence, has called my attention to the fact that western specimens of the Willet differ in size, color, and markings from those of the Atlantic coast. Upon testing these differences by a fairly large series I find the birds of the two regions apparently distinct, at least subspecifically. The western form may be characterized as follows:

*Symphemia semipalmata inornata*, subsp. nov.—WESTERN WILLET.

SUBSP. CHAR. *Male and Female, breeding plumage*:—Differing from *S. semipalmata* in being larger, with a longer, slenderer bill; the dark markings above fewer, finer, and fainter, on a much paler (grayish-drab) ground; those beneath duller, more confused or broken, and bordered by pinkish-salmon, which often spreads over or suffuses the entire underparts, excepting the abdomen. Middle tail-feathers either quite immaculate or very faintly barred.